### DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADMINISTRATION COORDINATION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES PROVIDER INFORMATION

WICOMICO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT	
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#### WHAT IS YOUR PHILOSOPHY IN PROVIDING SERVICES?

The Wicomico County Resource Coordination Program strives to empower individuals with disabilities to live meaningful, independent, and self-directed lives, and become active members of their community. We base our services on the principles of self-determination, personal empowerment, community integration, and non-discrimination. We provide services that are person-directed, sensitive and responsive to age and cultural differences, and supportive of individual rights and values. Each individual in our program is assisted in developing a holistic plan for services which reflects their strengths, preferences, desires, needs and meets the highest standard for health and safety.

## HOW LONG HAS YOUR AGENCY BEEN PROVIDING COORDINATION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES IN MARYLAND?

The Wicomico County Resource Coordination Program has been serving the Citizens of Wicomico County for over 30 years, and we have been a member of the Eastern Shore Resource Coordination Partnership (ESRCP) for over 25 years.

## HOW IS YOUR AGENCY DIFFERENT FROM OTHERS?

ESRCP has been providing resource coordination out of county health departments to the individuals with disabilities and their families living in the Eastern Region of Maryland since 1985. Historically, this program has operated as an integral part of the county health department services system. Health departments provide holistic care to local communities through a closely knit network of health, medical, mental health, substance abuse, family planning, maternity, infant and toddler, adult evaluation, personal care, medical transportation, child health, immunization, environmental, outreach and Emergency Response programs. Many Wicomico County families have a close relationship with the health department which can offer a focal point for assistance in a vast array of health-related needs.

### WHAT MARYLAND COUNTIES DO YOU SERVE?

Wicomico County

#### WHAT AREAS OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES DO YOU HAVE SPECIALISTS IN?

Our agency provides training to every resource coordinators in all areas of developmental disabilities as required by the Developmental Disabilities Administration, (DDA). In addition, each resource coordinator is also trained in the specific developmental disabilities of the individuals they serve. Using electronic "share documents" the ESRCP maintains an extensive cyber-library of resources and information to meet a variety of needs.

#### HOW DO YOU MATCH INDIVIDUALS WITH COORDINATORS?

We consider the individual's strengths, preferences, and desires, as well as specific needs for service and match those individuals with the appropriate resource coordinator. Our staff has extensive and diverse experiences in the field of disabilities and many resource coordinators have specialized knowledge and interest in specific disabilities. We take this specialized knowledge into account when matching an individual and resource coordinator. The individual's choice is also an important element of resource coordination selection. We place a great deal of importance on the relationship between the individual and their resource coordinator, and take efforts to ensure that this match is positive and successful.

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# DO YOU PROVIDE REFERENCES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND FAMILIES TO CONTACT? IF SO, HOW DO I ACCESS?

The Wicomico County Health Department has been serving the residents for over 30 years with a well-established service history in working closely with other private and public organizations. Our Resource Coordinator Program is part of the local community life and will be glad to provide the names of families and/or public and private organizations as references, when requested.

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